

Hoover's non-autopsys, AP stories a214, a219, both saying that the coroner held that with death "due to natural causes, an autopsy was not indicated." If he had said not required, that would have been closer. But indicated it was. It was avoided because despite his repeated lies on the subject, Hoover knew he suffered "hypertensive cardiovascular disease". His it say that despite his assurances to the contrary, he knew he could kick off at any unannounced minute, as he did. Now I have had two experiences of this sort in the past 10 days, in my own family, where each of two (I an without knowledge of a third) deaths of close relatives was, without doubt, from natural causes. In these two cases, there could have been a variety of natural causes. But there was no doubt at all, with both deceased long hospitalized, that causes were natural. With my stepfather, there was an autopsy. He was 88. Aside from one of the two things that could have killed him, discovered in the autopsy, bile blockage and the separation of an earlier intestine patch when 18" were removed (leading to peritonitis, known to exist before autopsy), he had hardening of the arteries and other problems of serious and potentially fatal character. With my brother-in-law, who is to be buried without an autopsy tomorrow, my sister-in-law got p'ed off at the doctors' evasiveness in saying why they wanted an autopsy and had been because she could never find a doctor who had made any kind of real examination of the patient, and she would not sign for an autopsy. Her husband, a three-fifths daily alcoholic before permanent reform years ago, he had had a series of strokes and heart attacks over the past two years, began with emphysema, had had brain damage after one of the strokes, and, as with my stepfather, science had the possibility of learning from an autopsy. So, to say one on Hoover was not "indicated" is to lie, and the lie is political. HW

Ret to HW

AP a214 - 227ped  
[] filed Hoover

2 May 72

..... Death came to the bachelor Hoover sometime Monday night or early Tuesday morning at his home where he lived with a housekeeper on the edge of Rock Creek part [in Washington]. His body was found by a maid, Annie Fields, at about 8:30 a.m. on the floor near his bed.

..... Dr. James L. Luke, coroner for the District of Columbia, attributed the death to "hypertensive cardiovascular disease," an ailment associated with high blood pressure. A heart attack might have been the direct cause, he said. He added that an autopsy was not indicated, because death was due to natural cause.

AP a219 - 239pe

Washington (AP) - The precise cause of J. Edgar Hoover's death will not be determined, the District of Columbia coroner indicated Tuesday.

Dr. James L. Luke said the certificate of death for the late director of the FBI reads "hypertensive cardiovascular disease," or disease of the cardiovascular system caused by high blood pressure.

Luke was asked if, beyond the general cause of death, the immediate cause could have been a coronary thrombosis, or heart attack.

He said that was possible, but that it could not be determined without an autopsy. He said, however, that since there was no question but that death was due to natural causes, an autopsy was not indicated. Hoover was 77.

Luke refused to comment on Hoover's medical history.